

Message Text

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 USIA-15 /030 W

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R 170935Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2035

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 2762

FOR: CU/NEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, NP

SUBJ: PROPOSED IVP GRANT MR. TEK BAHADUR KHATRI

1. MISSION NOMINATES MR. TEK BAHADUR KHATRI, JOINT SECRFUARY, MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS TO VISIT U.S. ON THIRTY DAY IVP GRANT.

2. KHATRI IS TYPE OF STRONG CANDIDATE MISSION TKAES PARTICULAR PLEASURE IN NOMINATING. AT AGE 42 HE HAS ALREADY HELD A NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT GOVERNMENT POSTS INCLUDING GENERAL MANAGER OF GORKHAPATRA CORPORATION, CHIEF DISTRICT OFFICER, AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICITY. IN HIS PRESENT POSITION HE HAS PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GON COMMUNICATIONS PLAN. HE IS CLEARLY TYPE OF OFFICER WHO CAN BE EXPECTED TO MOVE ON INTO HIGHER POSITIONS.

3. MR. KHATRI HAS TRAVELED ABROAD (THAILAND, PHILIPPINES, PRC AND USSR) BUTOTAS NEVER VISITED THE U.S. HIS COMMAND OF ENGLISH IS THE BEST OF ANY RECENT NOMINEE FROID THIS POST AND IT IS ANTICIPATED AN ESCORT WOULD NOT BE NEEDED. HE HAS A MASTERS DEGREE FROM NEPAL'S TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY.

4. MISSION BELIEVES KHATRI'S VISIT SHOULD PROVIDE BOTH EXPOSURE IN MR. KHATRI'S FIELD OF SPECIALIZATION AS WELL AS A BROAD LOOK AT THE U.S. AND ITS INSTITUTIONS. HIS MINISTRY HAS JURISDICTION NOT ONLY OVER RADIO, SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS AND NATIONAL UNCLASSIFIED

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NEWS AGENCY BUT ALSO BROADER AREAS SUCH AS POSTAL SERVICES AND

TELECOMMUNICATIONS. EXPOSURE TO VISIT ONEMCR TWO MAJOR UNIVERSITIES WITH OUTSTANDING COMMUNICATION PROGRAMS WOULD BE BENEFICIAL.

5. NOMINEE COULD TRAVEL SECOND QUARTER OF FY '76.

6. PROGRAMMING RECOMMENDATIONS AND DETAILED BIOGRAPHIC DATA WILL BE POUCHED FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE.
QUAINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KATHMA02762
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750210-0861
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750643/aaaabngx.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 OCT 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <09 JAN 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED IVP GRANT MR. TEK BAHADUR KHATRI
TAGS: OEXC, NP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006